

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A gas generating composition comprising the following components (a), (b), and (c) and optionally the component (d) and/or the component (e):

- (a) 10 to 60% by mass of an organic compound as fuel,
- (b) 10 to 85% by mass of an oxygen-containing oxidizing agent,
- (c) 0.1 to 20% by mass of aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 2 to 30 μ m,
- (d) a binder,
- (e) an additive selected from metal oxides and metal carbides.

2. (currently amended) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1, comprising ~~10 to 60% by mass of the component (a), 10 to 85% by mass of the component (b), 0.1 to 20% by mass of the component (c), 20% by mass or less of the component (d) and 20% by mass or less of the component (e).~~

3. (original) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1 or 2, wherein the organic compound (a) used as fuel is at least one selected from the group consisting of tetrazole compounds, guanidine compounds, triazine compounds and nitroamine compounds.

4. (original) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1 or 2, wherein the basic metal nitrate (b) is at least one

selected from the group consisting of a basic copper nitrate, a basic cobalt nitrate, a basic zinc nitrate, a basic manganese nitrate, a basic iron nitrate, a basic molybdenum nitrate, a basic bismuth nitrate and a basic cerium nitrate.

5. (original) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1 or 2, comprising, as the component (b), at least one oxidizing agent selected from the group consisting of (b-1) basic metal nitrates, nitrates and ammonium nitrate and (b-2) perchlorates and chlorates.

6. (original) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 5, wherein the perchlorate and chlorate (b-2) is at least one selected from the group consisting of ammonium perchlorate, potassium perchlorate, sodium perchlorate, potassium chlorate and sodium chlorate.

7. (original) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1 or 2, wherein the binder of the component (d) is at least one selected from the group consisting of carboxymethylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, potassium carboxymethylcellulose, ammonium carboxymethylcellulose, cellulose acetate, cellulose acetate butyrate, methylcellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, ethylhydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, carboxymethylethylcellulose, micro-

crystalline cellulose, polyacrylamide, aminated products of polyacrylamide, polyacrylhydrazide, a copolymer of acrylamide and a metal salt acrylate, a copolymer of polyacrylamide and a polyacrylic ester, polyvinyl alcohol, acrylic rubber, guar gum, starch and silicone.

8. (original) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1 or 2, wherein the additive of the component (e) is at least one selected from the group consisting of metal oxides including copper (II) oxide, iron oxide, zinc oxide, cobalt oxide, manganese oxide, molybdenum oxide, nickel oxide, bismuth oxide, silica or alumina; metal hydroxides including cobalt hydroxide or iron hydroxides; metallic carbonate or basic metallic carbonate including cobalt carbonate, calcium carbonate, basic zinc carbonates or basic copper carbonates; composite compounds of metal oxides or hydroxides including acid clay, kaolin, talc, bentonite, diatomaceous earth, or hydrotalcite; metallic acid salts including sodium silicate, mica molybdate, cobalt molybdate or ammonium molybdate; silicone; molybdenum disulfide; calcium stearate; silicon nitride and silicon carbide.

9. (original) A molded article of a gas generating composition having a single-perforated cylindrical shape, a porous cylindrical shape or a pellet shape, the molded article being

obtained from the gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1 or 2.

10. (original) An airbag inflator, comprising:

the gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1.

11. (original) An airbag inflator, comprising:

the molded article of a gas generating composition as set forth in claim 9.

12. (new) The gas generating composition of claim 1, comprising 3 to 15% by mass of aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 2 to 30 μm .

13. (new) The gas generating composition of claim 1, comprising 4 to 10% by mass of aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 2 to 30 μm .

14. (new) A gas generating composition consisting essentially of the following components (a), (b), and (c) and optionally the component (d):

(a) 10 to 60% by mass of an organic compound as fuel selected from the group consisting of nitroguanidine, guanidine nitrate, and melamine,

(b) 10 to 85% by mass of an oxygen-containing oxidizing agent selected from the group consisting of basic copper nitrate,

strontium nitrate, ammonium perchlorate, potassium perchlorate, sodium perchlorate, sodium chlorate, and potassium chlorate,

(c) 0.1 to 20% by mass of aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 2 to 30 μm ,

(d) 20% by mass or less of a binder selected from the group consisting of sodium carboxymethylcellulose and guar gum.

15. (new) The gas generating composition of claim 14, consisting essentially of nitroguanidine, strontium nitrate, and aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 11 μm .

16. (new) The gas generating composition of claim 14, consisting essentially of nitroguanidine, strontium nitrate, aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 11 μm , and sodium carboxymethylcellulose.

17. (new) The gas generating composition of claim 14, consisting essentially of nitroguanidine, basic copper nitrate, aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 11 μm , sodium chlorate, and sodium carboxymethylcellulose.

18. (new) The gas generating composition of claim 14, consisting essentially of guanidine nitrate, basic copper nitrate, aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 11 μm , and sodium carboxymethylcellulose.

19. (new) A gas generating composition comprising the following components (a), (b), and (c) and optionally the component (d) and/or the component (e):

- (a) 10 to 60% by mass of an organic compound as fuel,
- (b) 10 to 85% by mass of an oxygen-containing oxidizing agent,
- (c) 0.1 to 20% by mass of aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 2 to 50 μm ,
- (d) a binder,
- (e) an additive selected from metal oxides and metal carbides.

20. (new) The gas generating composition as set forth in claim 1, comprising 20% by mass or less of the component (d) and 20% by mass or less of the component (e).

21. (new) A molded article of a gas generating composition having a single-perforated cylindrical shape, a porous cylindrical shape or a pellet shape, the molded article being obtained from the gas generating composition as set forth in claim 19 or 20.

22. (new) An airbag inflator, comprising:

the gas generating composition as set forth in claim 19.

23. (original) An airbag inflator, comprising:

the molded article of a gas generating composition as set forth in claim 21.

24. (new) A gas generating composition consisting essentially of the following components (a), (b), and (c) and optionally the component (d):

(a) 10 to 60% by mass of an organic compound as fuel selected from the group consisting of nitroguanidine, guanidine nitrate, and melamine,

(b) 10 to 85% by mass of an oxygen-containing oxidizing agent selected from the group consisting of basic copper nitrate, strontium nitrate, ammonium perchlorate, potassium perchlorate, sodium perchlorate, sodium chlorate, and potassium chlorate,

(c) 0.1 to 20% by mass of aluminum hydroxide having an average particle size of 2 to 50 μm ,

(d) 20% by mass or less of a binder selected from the group consisting of sodium carboxymethylcellulose and guar gum.